RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

OF

ABERYSTWYTH, CARDIGANSHIRE

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT, - 1965

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

Jos. R. Jones, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.O.G., D.P.H. - until April, 1966

W. J. St. E-G. Rhys, M.A., M.B., B.S., B.Sc., M.R.C.O.G., D.P.H. - from October, 1966

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

D. Meirion Hughes, M.A.P.H.I.

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ABERYSTWYTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Chairman 1964/65	Chairman 1965/66
Councillor W. A. Jenkins	Councillor E. H. Griffiths

28 members including the Chairman

Committees dealing with Public Health matters

(a) Finance, Health and Housing Committee

Chairman 1964/65	Chairman 1965/66
Councillor John Davies	Councillor T. J. Edwards

(b) Sewerage Committee

Chairman 1964/65	Chairman 1965/66
Councillor H. L. Davies	Councillor Evan Jones

Clerk of the Council : Cyrus Evans, Esq.,
Swyddfa'r Cyngor,
26 Bridge Street,
ABERYSTWYTH.

Telephone No. : Aberystwyth 2270.

To the Chairman and Members of
the Aberystwyth Rural District Council.

PREFACE

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report of the Public Health Department for the year which ended on the 31 December, 1965.

The number of live births registered during the year was one hundred and ninety six, representing an increase of twenty five over the figure for the previous year. There were two registered still-births, and one infant died during the first week of life. No other deaths were registered during the first year of life. No woman died as a result of pregnancy, childbirth or abortion.

The number of registered deaths was one hundred and seventy three, an increase of twenty three over the figure for 1964. Fifty nine people died of heart disease, thirty three of cancer, and twenty six of 'stroke'.

Forty four cases of measles were notified and sixteen of foodpoisoning. Six new cases of tuberculosis were notified and one person died of the disease.

A more detailed account of the work of the Public Health Department, including a section by the Public Health Inspector, will be found in the following pages.

At Gadeirydd ac Aelodau o
Gyngor Dosbarth Gwledig Aberystwyth.

RHAGAIR

Pleser imi yw cyflwyno Adroddiad Blynyddol yr Adran Iechyd Cyhoeddus am y flwyddyn a orffenodd ar 31 Rhagfyr, 1965.

Cafodd un cant naw deg a chwech a anwyd yn fyw eu cofrestru yn ystod y flwyddyn, yn cynrychioli ychwaneg o pump ar hugain dros y rhif am y flwyddyn flaenorol. Cofrestrwyd dau farw-anedig, a bu farw un baban yn ei wythnos gyntaf. Ond ni chofrestrwyd rhagor o farwolaethau yn y flwyddyn gyntaf. Ni bu farw un fenyw am ei bod yn feichiog, nac wrth eni plentyn neu wrth erthylu.

Cofrestrwyd un-cant-saith-deg a thri o farwolaethau, dengys hyn tri-ar-hugain yn rhagor ar y rhif am 1964. Bu farw pump-deg-naw o glefyd y galon, tri deg tri o'r cancr a chwech ar hugain o'r strôc.

Fe nodwyd pedwar deg a phedwar o ddigwyddiadau o'r frech goch a un-deg-chwech o'r gwenwyn-fwyd. Nodwyd chwech ddigwyddiad newydd o'r ddarfodedigaeth, a bu farw un person o'r clefyd yma.

Rhoddir cyfrif manylach o waith yr Adran Iechyd Cyhoeddus, yn cynnwys rhan â baratowyd gan yr Archwiliwr Iechyd Cyhoeddus yn y tudalennau canlynol.

VITAL STATISTICS

	1963	1964	1965
LIVEBIRTHS			
Total	152	171	196
Leg:	145	162	190
Illeg:	7	9	6
Rate per 1,000 population (crude)	13.6	15.1	17.0
Rate per 1,000 population (adjusted)	16.5	18.4	20.7
Rate per 1,000 population England and Wales	18.2	18.5	18.1
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	4.6	5.2	3.1
STILLBIRTHS			
Total	2	1	2
Leg:	2	1	1
Illeg:	0	0	1
Rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths	13.0	5.8	10.1
Rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths England and Wales	17.2	16.3	15.8
TOTAL LIVE AND STILLBIRTHS	154	172	198
PERI-NATAL DEATHS (Stillbirths plus early neo-natal deaths)			
Total	2	3	3
Leg:	2	3	2
Illeg:	0	0	1
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	13.0	17.4	15.2
EARLY NEO-NATAL DEATHS (deaths under one week)			
Total	0	2	1
Leg:	0	2	1
Illeg:	0	0	0
Rate per 1,000 total live births	0	11.7	5.1
NEO-NATAL DEATHS (deaths under four weeks)			
Total	0	2	1
Leg:	0	2	1
Illeg: . ..	0	0	0
Rate per 1,000 total live births	0	11.7	5.1
INFANT DEATHS (total deaths under one year)			
Total	1	3	1
Leg:	1	3	1
Illeg:	0	0	0

7. INFANT DEATHS (CONT'D.)	1963	1964	1965
Rate per 1,000 total live births	6.6	17.5	5.1
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births .	6.9	18.5	5.3
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	0	0	0

8. MATERNAL DEATHS (including abortion)			
Number of deaths	0	0	0
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	0	0	0

DEATHS

Total	151	150	173
Rate per 1,000 population (crude)	13.5	13.0	15.0
Rate per 1,000 population (adjusted)	11.3	10.9	12.4
Rate per 1,000 population England and Wales	12.2	11.3	11.5

Area comparability factor for births	1.22	1.22	1.22
Area comparability factor for deaths	0.84	0.84	0.83

POPULATION STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	140,728
Population (Census 1961).....	11,227
Population (Registrar General's Estimated Mid-Year Population for 1965)	11,520

CAUSES OF DEATH

Registrar General's Code Number	Causes of death	Number of deaths Male	Female	Total
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	1	1
2	Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
3	Syphilitic disease	-	1	1
4	Diphtheria	-	-	-
5	Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6	Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
7	Acute poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8	Measles	-	-	-
9	Other infective & parasitic diseases	-	-	-
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4	5	9
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	2	-	2
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	3	3
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	1	1
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	9	9	18
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-
16	Diabetes	-	1	1
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	14	12	26
18	Coronary disease, angina	21	12	33
19	Hypertension with heart disease	2	3	5
20	Other heart disease	7	14	21
21	Other circulatory disease	4	2	6
22	Influenza	-	-	-
23	Pneumonia	5	3	8
24	Bronchitis	4	3	7
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	-	1	1
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	1	1
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	1	2
28	Nephritis, and nephrosis	-	-	-
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	3	-	3
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
31	Congenital malformations	1	-	1
32	Othe defined and ill-defined diseases	7	11	18
33	Motor vehicle accidents	-	1	1
34	All other accidents	2	2	4
35	Suicide	-	-	-
36	Homicide & operations of war	-	-	-
	TOTAL:	86	87	173

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following is a list of the notifications of infectious diseases, other than tuberculosis, received during the year.

Diptheria	Nil
Dysentery (amoebic and bacillary)	Nil
Encephalitis	Nil
Erysipelas	Nil
Food poisoning	16
Measles	44
Meningococcal meningitis	Nil
Paratyphoid fever	Nil
Salmonella	1
Pneumonia (acute primary & acute influenzal)	Nil
Poliomyelitis	Nil
Relapsing fever	Nil
Scarlet fever	Nil
Smallpox	Nil
Whooping Cough	2

TUBERCULOSIS

The following table shows the sex and age distribution of the new cases notified during the year.

AGE GROUP	RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
5 - 14	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	-	-	-	-
25 - 44	1	1	-	-
45 - 64	-	1	-	1
65 +	1	1	-	-
TOTAL:	2	3	-	1

SECTION 47 OF THE NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

No action was required to be taken under this section during the year.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

These remain essentially the same as in previous years and are under the control of the County Council.

W. J. St. E-G. Rhys
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1965

1. HOUSING ACT, 1957-1964

Several houses were represented as unfit for human habitation and not repairable at a reasonable expense. Notices of Time and Place were served on the owners under Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957, to appear before the Council to show cause why Demolition Orders or Closing Orders should not be made on the dwellings. The outcome of this procedure appears in the statistical section of this report.

Twenty-two houses were made fit during the year as a result of informal action by the Council.

No. of houses on which Demolition Orders have been made	69
No. of houses to be scheduled as unfit	42
Total number of houses unfit	111

2. HOUSE CONSTRUCTION.

The construction of seventy-two houses was completed by private developers during the year. This is a reduction of about 25% as compared with the year 1964. However at the end of the year there were 72 houses under construction and this higher figure should result in the completion of more houses next year. More than half of the total of houses completed had three bedrooms, 11 houses had two bedrooms and 9 houses had four or more bedrooms.

It is again regretted that no work was in progress on the building of Council houses during the year. This was the result of the difficulties in obtaining planning permissions referred to in last year's report. A scheme for the provision of an aged persons residence submitted to the County Council in July 1965 is still awaiting approval although the residence complies fully with the County Council's scheme of grants for the provision of accommodation for the elderly.

The number of applicants on the Council's housing list remained at about 200.

3. HOUSING IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

The Council continued its policy of making improvement grants available to owners of private houses.

Ninety-seven houses were inspected to ascertain if they were eligible for an improvement grant.

One hundred and ten houses were inspected during the progress of works of improvement.

Final inspections were carried out in fifty-two houses on completion of improvement works, prior to certification of the work as satisfactory before payment of grant.

The number of grants approved during the year was :-

Discretionary Grants = 35 Value £12,259

Standard Grants = 34 Value £6,980

Since the inception of the scheme the number of applications for grants approved by the Council was 589 and the total value was £172,700.

4. PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS, 1936-1961

Forty-eight complaints of statutory nuisance were registered and investigated with the view to their abatement. It was not found necessary to take any formal proceedings against anyone to secure the abatement of a nuisance.

5. WATER SUPPLIES

Routine water samples were taken from the Cardiganshire Water Board's supplies to the various villages in the Council's area and these were submitted for bacteriological examinations.

Samples were also taken from private supplies and the consumers were advised of the results.

The consent of the Council was sought to the use of certain farm water supplies for domestic purposes. Bacteriological reports were obtained in all such cases and these were examined before recommending that the consent of the Council be given to the use of a particular supply.

The number of water samples taken during the year was as follows :-

Bacteriological examination

Public Supplies	24
Private Supplies	35

Chemical Analysis

Private Supplies	1

The water supplies in the rural area have generally been satisfactory in quality and quantity.

There were no reported cases of lead poisoning or poisoning due to any other metallic contamination of water supplies.

6. MEAT INSPECTION.

There is only one licensed slaughterhouse in the Council's area and that is situated at Esgair Farm, Llangwyryfon.

During the period under review the weekly kill of lambs and pigs increased and all carcases were inspected. The quality of the meat was excellent and no single carcase was condemned. Parasitic infection seemed to be the principal cause of the condemnation of livers and lungs.

7. CARAVAN SITES

The number of licensed caravan sites in the rural area is 27.

Improvements to amenities on most sites were carried out during the year and the co-operation of all operators was forthcoming.

8. REFUSE COLLECTION

The refuse collection service operated satisfactorily during the year.

The refuse disposal tips are located at Borth, Llanbadarn, Penrhyngerwyd and Llywernog. During the year much improved haul roads were constructed to the tip faces. These roads will be adequate for the heavier type of refuse collection vehicle now in service.

Soil and subsoil are acquired when available and stockpiled so that the tipping faces can be regularly covered.

Routine treatment for the eradication of flies and rats was carried out.

9. DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Work proceeded during the year on the construction of the Talybont Sewerage Scheme.

Construction work started on the Borth Sewerage Scheme. This scheme is estimated to cost £243,000.

Work also proceeded on the preparations of the schemes for Tre'rddol, and Taliesin: Comins Coch, Penrhyncoch and Llandre· Capel Bangor and Goginan.

There are still some properties which are served by cesspools which have to be emptied from time to time.

182 emptyings of cesspools were done during the year.

342 inspections of drainage work were carried out.

10. RODENT CONTROL

Numerous treatments were carried out at private dwellings and business premises for the eradication of rats and mice.

No major infestations occurred and the number of inspections made and treatments done was 85.

11. FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

18 premises were inspected and found to be generally satisfactory.

55 premises are registered for the storage and sale of Ice Cream. There are no premises upon which Ice Cream is manufactured.

12. FACTORIES ACT, 1937

The number of factories in the Council's area is 34.

Visits of inspection were made in connection with the provision of adequate sanitary conveniences and washing facilities.

Building sites were visited to enforce the provision of sanitary conveniences on the sites for the use of employees.

13. INFECTIOUS DISEASES

No serious epidemic of infectious diseases occurred.

14. OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Six applications were received from occupiers of offices and shops for registration of their premises under the Act.

Premises which have been registered are classified as follows :-

Offices	5
Retail Shops	2
Wholesale shop	1
Catering Establishments	3

Inspections were carried out at these registered premises and defects needing attention were brought to the notice of the various occupiers of the premises.

Appropriate returns and an annual report was prepared and submitted to the Ministry of Labour as required by the Act.

15. BUILDING BYELAWS

During the year the use of sulphate resisting cement was again enforced throughout the area. A number of adjoining authorities have informed us during the year that the proceedings reported in last year's Annual Report had had a beneficial effect on the standard of building throughout the area.

16. MISCELLANEOUS INSPECTIONS

938 miscellaneous inspections were made in connection with the work of the department.

17. STATISTICAL SECTION OF THE REPORT

(1)	Number of houses which on inspection were considered to be unfit for human habitation	94
(2)	Number of houses the defects in which were remedied in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority	22
(3)	Number of representations made to the Local Authority with a view to :-	
	(a) The serving of notices requiring the execution of works	Nil
	(b) the making of demolition or closing orders	7
(4)	The number of Notices served requiring the execution of works	Nil
(5)	Number of houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	Nil
(6)	Number of demolition or closing orders made	3
(7)	Number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted under Section 16 (4) of the Housing Act, 1957	2
(8)	Number of houses demolished	1

18. The following statistics are given in accordance with the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935 :-

Article 27, Section 18

(a)	Number of inspections	2,111
(b)	Nature of inspections :	
	Water Supplies	59
	Rodent Control	85
	Cesspools	182
	Drainage	342
	Nuisances	48
	Improvement Grants	258
	Housing	68
	Meat Inspection	40
	Food Premises	16
	Offices and Shops	7
	Miscellaneous	938

Article 17, Section 14

(a)	Number of dwellings overcrowded	Nil
	Number of families	Nil
	Number of persons dwelling therein	Nil
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding	Nil
(c)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved	Nil
	Number of persons concerned	Nil

Articles 17, Section 4

(d)	Cases in which dwelling houses in respect of which the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding have again become overcrowded	Nil

19. The Statsitios of Meat Inspection

(a)	Number of cows killed	Nil
	Number of calves killed	Nil
	Number of sheep and lambs killed	1,460
	Number of pigs killed	48
	Number of horses killed	Nil
(b)	Number of cows inspected	Nil
	Number of calves inspected	Nil
	Number of pigs killed	48
	Number of sheep and lambs inspected	1,460
	Number of horses inspected	Nil

All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis

(c)	Whole carcases condemned	Nil
(d)	Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned: ..	
	Cows	Nil
	Calves	Nil
	Sheep and lambs	841
	Pigs	6
	Horses	Nil
(e)	Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticercosis :-	
	Cows	Nil
	Calves	Nil
	Sheep and lambs	30%
	Pigs	Nil
	Horses	Nil

Tuberculosis only

(f)	Whole carcases condemned	Nil
(g)	Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	Nil
(h)	Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	Nil

Cysticercosis

(i)	Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	Nil
(j)	Carcases subjected to treatment by refrigeration	Nil
(k)	Generalised and totally condemned	Nil

D. MEIRION HUGHES, M.A.P.H.I.
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

Public Health Department,
Swyddfa'r Cyngor,
26 Bridge Street,
ABERYSTWYTH.